

wherein a second side of the guide member facing the base plate is also embodied so as to taper inwards, so that a portion of the guide member situated closest to the cassette is arranged at a predetermined distance from the base plate.

REMARKS

Entry of this amendment, and reconsideration and withdrawal of all grounds of rejection, are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-10 remain pending herein, claim 1 being amended to clarify the claimed invention.

Applicant has modified the disclosure to conform to the approved changes for Fig. 3 previously filed, so as to identify the reference numeral 20 by name.

SUMMARY OF THE REJECTIONS:

(1) Claims 1-2, 7 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Snell (U.S. 6,152,435).

(2) Claims 1-2, 4, and 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Engibarov (U.S. 5,060,920).

(3) Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Engibarov and further in view of McConkey (U.S. 5,074,536).

(4) Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Engibarov in further view of Gaither (U.S. 3,626,600).

(5) Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Engibarov in view of Takisawa et. al. (U.S. 6,383,890, hereafter "Takisawa").